

Abstract

5 The invention relates to a device for the automatic opening and closing of reaction  
vessels. It comprises a holding device for the non-rotatable holding of one or more  
reaction vessels, a gripper for the gripping of a lid for the reaction vessel, wherein the  
gripper has gripping jaws to take hold of the lid, and a holding arm with a rotating  
mechanism for rotatable holding of the gripper. The gripping jaws are arranged in such a  
way that, when the lid is inserted into the area between the gripping jaws, it is held by the  
10 latter through frictional contact, and the gripper has no active operating device for opening  
and closing the gripping jaws.